1. A transfer of power to this city began at precisely 6:37 AM, likely due to its astrological significance. This city lies between the Pegu Mountains and Shan Hills, and is located just west of the town of Pyinmana. This city contains the Uppatasanti Pagoda, which is a near-exact replica of the Shwedagon Pagoda. This city has streets with up to 20 lanes, and gained its first embassy when the Bangladeshi embassy moved here in 2011. This city is connected to the two largest cities in its country by a “death highway,” the southern portion of which is often traversed by politicians-- this portion ends at Yangon. For the point, name this capital of Myanmar.
   ANSWER: Nay Pyi Taw (or Naypyidaw) (EK)

2. One of these buildings named for a bridge plays the song “Chelsea Dagger” by The Fratellis after a favorable event. The Hillsborough disaster took place in one of these buildings in Sheffield. The world’s largest one is referred to in English as the “Camp Nou” and is in Barcelona. For the point, name these buildings that house crowds at major sporting events involving goalkeepers and yellow cards.
   ANSWER: Football stadiums (accept soccer stadiums and equivalents) (CP)

3. A historic port in this region is home to salt warehouses known as the Salzspeicher. The November Constitution attempted to create a joint parliament with this region, bypassing the London Protocol of 1852. A conflict over this region was ended by the Gastein Convention. A group of islands belonging to this present-day region, Heligoland, was swapped with Zanzibar in an 1890 treaty. This region, home to the Hanseatic city of Lübeck, is crossed by the Kiel Canal. For the point, name this north German region once contested with Denmark.
   ANSWER: Schleswig-Holstein <KG> {III}

4. The flag of this polity features a lotus flower above water on a green background. At one point in World War II, the only neutral port in Southern China was located here. This polity is famous for its casinos, recently passing Las Vegas to become the top casino market in the world. In 1999, this territory was formally handed over to its current country by Portugal. For the point, name this Special Administrative Region of China which lies on the Pearl River delta, often paired with Hong Kong.
   ANSWER: Macau (WD)
5. Benjamin Franklin charted and named this feature, aided by his cousin, a Nantucket whaler. This entity is mainly driven by western intensification, and is connected to the North Atlantic Drift. This element of the North Atlantic Gyre was discovered by Juan Ponce de Leon, and explained the difference in times taken for a trip from London to New York and the return trip. For the point, name this current that flows north from the tip of Florida up the Atlantic coast.

ANSWER: **Gulf Stream (DS)**

6. UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros Ghali was a member of this specific religious group. One of these people, who was presented to Muhammad as a gift in 628 and bore him Ibrahim, was named Maria. Members of this group are miaphysites, meaning they consider Jesus to be of one nature after the incarnation, and their language was used to write the gnostic Gospel of Judas. For the point, name this Egyptian Christian church whose members make up approximately 10% of that country’s population.

ANSWER: **Copts (or Coptic Christians) (EK)**

7. The now-closed Domino sugar refinery in this neighborhood once processed more than half the sugar used in the US. A volunteer patrol organization in this neighborhood, the Shomrim, have been accused of racism against its black and Hispanic residents. The protagonist of the novel *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* lives in this neighborhood. Bedford Avenue in this neighborhood is associated with its new residents, whom Robert Landham described in *The Hipster Handbook*. For the point, name this hip New York City neighborhood that shares a name with a colonial city in Virginia.

ANSWER: **Williamsburg (prompt on “Brooklyn” until mentioned) (KL)**

8. The San Juan River drains this lake, which lies East of the Isthmus of Rivas. Ernesto Cardenal established an art colony on its Solentiname Archipelago. This body of water was the site of a proposed canal that was beat out by a pathway incorporating the Miraflores and Gatun lakes. This lake’s islands include Ometepe and Zapatera. For the point, name this lake that shares a name with a country led from Managua.

Answer: **Lake Nicaragua (RN)**

9. This region is the site of the Homestake Mine and Lake Pactola. Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane lived in this region’s town of Deadwood in the 19th century. This region is home to the town of Sturgis, the site of a motorcycle rally each summer. This region is currently the construction site of a monument to the Lakota chief Crazy Horse. For the point, name this region in Western South Dakota where one may find Mount Rushmore.

ANSWER: **Black Hills (RN) (prompt on South Dakota)**

10. Ingolfur Arnarson supposedly founded this city in the late ninth century AD. In 1972, this city hosted a namesake summit between Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev. This city lies west of the original Althingi parliament site at Thingvillir and it is on the southern coast of Faxe Bay. This city’s Blue Lagoon is a geothermal tourist hotspot, and the Ring Road connects this city to the rest of the nation it governs. For the point, name this city that also serves as the capital of Iceland.

ANSWER: **Reykjavik (RN)**
11. At one end of this road is the border town of Houlton. This road is divided into an HOV 3 lane in Virginia, one of the few on the East Coast. Notable tourist attractions along this route are a 165-foot tall sombrero tower at South of the Border while this route is identical to the New Jersey Turnpike in Northern New Jersey. For the point, name this longest North-South interstate in the United States.
ANSWER: U.S. Interstate 95 (CP)

12. *Ocean Odyssey*, a drilling rig, was converted to one of these in the 1990’s. Palmachim is Israel’s main one of these locations, selected due to its proximity to the Mediterranean. The CNES uses one of these at Kourou in French Guiana. Yang Liwei departed from one of these facilities in Jiuquan as part of *Shenzhou 5*. The first operational one of these was located at Baikonur, and the main American one of these is at Cape Canaveral. For the point, name these places from which satellites can be sent into space.
ANSWER: spaceport (accept cosmodrome; accept anything mentioning rocket launch sites; prompt on “space center” or equivalents) (DS)

13. This body of water was once called “The Devil’s Belt”, and it contains the Captain and Norwalk Islands. The Harbor Hill Moraine lies on the southern boundary of this body of water, which formed after the Wisconsin glacial period. Block Island lies to the east of this body, while the East River is a strait connecting this body and New York Bay. The Connecticut River flows into – for the point – what arm of the Atlantic Ocean north of its namesake New York island?
ANSWER: Long Island Sound (DS)

14. One of the native names for this island may mean “Land of the Hummingbird”. The Gulf of Paria is on the western shore of this island, which contains its largest city, Chaguanas. This island has both a large Hindu population and is the home of calypso music. It achieved independence from Britain in 1962, but Columbus discovered this island on his third voyage, and it was a Spanish possession until 1797; thus, one city on this island is called Port-of-Spain. For the point, name this island in the Lesser Antilles that forms a sovereign nation with its neighbor, Tobago.
ANSWER: Trinidad (DS)

15. Lord Byron swam across this body of water in 1810, which he mentions in his *Don Juan*. French military units were almost attacked while on this body of water during the Chanak Incident, and military access to it was limited by the London Convention of 1841. The Sea of Marmara is connected by this body to the Aegean, and it separates the Gallipoli Peninsula from Asia Minor. For the point, name this passageway which, along with the Bosphorus Strait, connects the Black Sea to the Mediterranean.
ANSWER: Dardanelles (accept Hellespont) (DS)
16. One part of this system leads from Rason to Khasan and was completed in 2011. In 1899, the Treasury Department cited this network as a source of the “great drama” in the Orient. The *Angara* was a ship built to aid in the completion of this system, which was estimated to cost 300 million rubles. An alternative to this route is the Baikal-Amur Mainline, and an extension of this system serves Kiev and Pyongyang. For the point, name this 6000-mile long route, spanning from Vladivostok to Moscow. ANSWER: **Trans-Siberian Railway** (prompt on things like “Russian railroads”) (DS)

17. Four *sangkang* protect Barkhor Square in this city, which was the site of protests in 2008. Heinrich Harrer helped construct a dam on the Kyi River flowing through this city. Water from this city drains into the Yarlung Tsangpo River, which in turn flows into the Brahmaputra. Lobsang Gyatso moved his government to this city, which lies at an elevation of 12,000 feet. Potala Palace was the residence of the Dalai Lama in – for the point – what capital city of Tibet? ANSWER: **Lhasa** (DS)

18. This city is home to the *Guinness Book of World Records*’ smallest park in the world, a two foot diameter circle known as Mill Ends Park. It lies on top of the extinct Boring Lava Field, and has landmarks such as Powell’s Bookstore. This city is located just West of the city of Hood River and straddles the banks of the Willamette River, and is the seat of the surrounding Multnomah County. For the point, name this largest Oregon city. ANSWER: **Portland** (RN)

19. This country shares the shallow Lake Chiuta with its Eastern neighbor, and lists Chichewa as its official language. Its current president is Joyce Banda, and this nation was colonially known as Nyasaland. The largest cities in this country include Zomba and Blantyre. This nation’s namesake body of water receives the Ruhuhu River and is the source of the Shire River. For the point, name this skinny East African country whose capital is Lilongwe. ANSWER: Republic of **Malawi** (RN)

20. This island, formerly known as New Ulster, had no official name until 2009. The Horahora power station lies on the longest river on this island, whose source is at Lake Taupo. That river is the Waikato, which the Kingitanga movement defended from the British during the 1860’s. According to native mythology, this island was a fish caught by Maui, while a larger island to the south is his canoe. The two islands are separated by the Cook Strait. For the point, name this smaller of the two main islands of New Zealand. ANSWER: **North Island** (accept Te *Ika-a-Maui*) (DS)

21. The deepest point in this body of water is 733 feet below sea level and was first reached by J. Val Klump in 1985. This body of water is home to Whitefish Bay and was the site of the wreck of the *Edmund Fitzgerald*. Some cities on this lake are Thunder Bay, Sault (pr. *Soo*) Saint Marie, and Duluth, the world’s most inland port. For the point, name this largest Great Lake, which straddles the border between the US and Canada. ANSWER: **Lake Superior** (WD)
22. During this festival, celebrants sometimes play the game Huranga, which features women trying to tear the shirts off the backs of men. This festival is often accompanied by the consumption of Bhang, a paste created by grinding cannabis leaves. In Barsana during this festival, men sing provocative songs teasing women, who in turn respond by beating them with bamboo sticks. On the third day of this festival, Parva, people throw colored powders called gulal onto each other. For the point, name this Hindu “festival of colors.” ANSWER: Holi (JF)

23. The British renamed a region of this country Cumberland Bay during the War of Jenkins Ear. That region in the south of this country was mentioned in a vehemently disputed 1903 treaty which allows American presence there. This country’s city of Cienfuegos was controversially visited by Soviet vessels in the early 1970s. The Rough Riders famously charged up San Juan Hill during the war that won this country its independence from Spain. For the point, name this Caribbean Island nation located ninety miles from the United States with capital at Havana. ANSWER: Cuba (CP)

24. One of the main subjects for research of this disease is a native Alaskan recovered from the permafrost near Brevig Mission. This disease was most deadly in its second wave, which was notably spread from Freetown, Sierra Leone, and was mostly ineffectual in Copenhagen. Potential source areas for this disease include northern China, Austria, and Haskell County, Kansas. This disease got its most common name due to wartime censorship efforts, which allowed many accounts of it to come from its namesake neutral country. For the point, name this disease, which caused an epidemic approximately concurrent with the end of World War I. ANSWER: Spanish Influenza (prompt on “H1N1”, accept answers noting a 1918 or 1919 Flu Epidemic, DO NOT accept or prompt on any answer including “Swine Flu”) (EK)

25. A British television show called “Meerkat Manor” was filmed in this desert. The name of this place means “large thirst” in the Tswana language. The San people, also known as Bushmen, are hunter-gatherers who live here. Acacia trees are the main type of vegetation in this desert, as well as herbs and grasses. For the point, name this African desert that can be found in Botswana, Namibia, and South Africa. ANSWER: Kalahari Desert (WD)

26. In this city, six people were shot by police on the Danziger Bridge. Those shootings and the cover-up that surrounded them led to the conviction of five police officers in 2011. This city’s former mayor, Ray Nagin, was convicted of wire fraud, bribery and money laundering, and is currently in federal prison. This city sued the Army Corps of Engineers after “the worst civil engineering disaster in United States history,” the failure of this city’s levees. For the point, name this city which was devastated by Hurricane Katrina. ANSWER: New Orleans (KL)
27. This body of water contains the Dahlak Archipelago and the Farasan Islands, and the Hala’ib Triangle lies along its banks. This sea is bounded to the South by the Bab-el-Mandeb. At its Northern end lies the Strait of Tiran, through which this sea connects to the Gulf of Aqaba. Its Southeast leads to the Gulf of Aden and Arabian Sea. For the point, name this sea between the Arabian Peninsula and continental Africa. 
ANSWER: Red Sea (RN)

28. The Diego Ramirez Islands lie off the Southern coast of this region, whose Navarino Island is home to many archeological sites created by the Yaghan tribe. This region’s city of Ushuaia lies east of its Cordillera Darwin, and its Northeast was originally inhabited by Selknam peoples. This region’s Isla Desolación lies just South of the Strait of Magellan, and this region’s Southernmost point is Cape Horn on the Beagle Channel. For the point, name this region split by Chile and Argentina that lies south of Patagonia.
ANSWER: Tierra del Fuego (RN)

29. This country shares the High Fens Plateau with its Eastern neighbor. This nation’s festivals include the Procession of the Holy Blood held in May at Bruges. This country is also home to Gent along the Scheldt River and Namur and Liege (pr. lee-EZH) along the Meuse River. It also controls the Northern portions of the Ardennes forest. Culturally, this country is divided between its Flemish-speaking north, and French-speaking south. For the point, name this low country whose capital is Brussels.
ANSWER: Kingdom of Belgium (RN)

30. In this mountain range, Damask Roses have been grown in The Valley of Roses for hundreds of years. Mount Chelia is the highest peak in a subset of this range, the Aures. Hikers begin in the Imlil Valley in order to begin their ascent of this mountain range’s highest point, Jebel Toubkal. A people inhabiting this region refer to themselves as the free people, or Imazighen. Those people are the Berbers. For the point, name this mountain range in northwest Africa.
ANSWER: Atlas Mountains (Accept High Atlas until Mount Chelia) (JF)

Backup Question – Only read if you botch a tossup!

31. In places like Mogos, South Sudan, filter pipes with a nylon weave are distributed to prevent the ingestion of copepods, which harbor these organisms. This organism is now largely confined to Kapeota County in Eastern Equatoria State in South Sudan. This organism creates a severe, though non-fatal, burning sensation that causes the afflicted person to want to immerse themselves in water, allowing this organism to reproduce. The eradication of these organisms has been the goal of a former US President since 1986 through the work of the Carter Center. For the point, name this parasitic worm that must be wound around a stick and manually extracted over the course of weeks to remove from humans.
ANSWER: Guinea Worm (accept Dracunculus Medinensis) (JF)